Montana State Library

This cover sheet created by Internet Archive for formatting.

S
331
E10me
Vol.29,No.3

3 0864 0014 6024 8

MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Office of Research & Analysis ■ Department of Labor & Industry ■ 3rd Quarter 1999 ■ Vol. 29, No. 3

Economic highlights and employment outlook

Montana's **Civilian Labor Force** averaged 480,400 the third quarter of 1999—up 3,600 over the quarter, and up 9,500 over the year.

Employment

The number of Montanans **employed** during the quarter averaged 460,100—up 6,900 over the quarter, and up 9,800 over the year.

Unemployment

The number of Montanans **unemployed** during the quarter averaged 20,300—down 3,300 over the quarter, and down 300 over the year.

The **average unemployment rate** for the quarter was 4.2 percent—down 0.8 percent over the quarter, and down 0.2 percent over the year.

(See jobs by industry on page 6)

Quarterly Employment Trends

Quarter	Montana Civilian Labor Force*	MONTANA Montanans Employed	Montanans Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (Montana)	UNITED STATES Unemployment Rate (U.S.)
1999 - 3rd	480,400	460,100	20,300	4.2%	4.2%
1999 - 2nd	476,800	453,200	23,600	5.0%	4.2%
1999 - 1st	470,400	440,300	30,100	6.4%	4.7%
1998 - 4th	468,100	442,300	25,800	5.5%	4.1%
1998 - 3rd	470,900	450,300	20,600	4.4%	4.5%

*Rounded Civilian Labor Force Numbers, 1999 Benchmark (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Forecast of nonagricultural payroll jobs in Montana, 1999 and 2000

*by Phil Brooks**
Chief Economist, Office of Research and Analysis

See job forecasts by industry table on page 3

Although the future is always uncertain, it is nevertheless useful to forecast the number of jobs by economic sector for Montana's economy.

The forecast job levels will always be wrong in a precise sense, unless one is extremely lucky. So the undertaking is not for those who always need to be right, or for the faint of heart. What follows are numbers that are educated guesses or approximations of nonagricultural payroll jobs in Montana, on average, for 1999 and 2000.

Be assured that the methodology used was more sophisticated than staring at a crystal ball or drawing graphs on the back of an envelope. The basic method used was, in fact, a complicated trend analysis called "autoregressive, moving average modeling," using monthly data from 1988 forward into 1999. These were years of payroll job growth in Montana. 1988 actually was the last year when Montana's economy was

(Continued on next page)

*The author is grateful for the assistance on this project of Bob Liffring, Statistician, Office of Research and Analysis.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Employment and unemployment 1
Job Forecasts, 1999 and 2000 1
Jobs by industry 6
Industry news 8
Quarterly tables 11
Glossary of terms 22
Sources of data 23

PLEASE RETURN

in recession, as measured by inflation-adjusted gross state product, even though nonagricultural payroll employment increased that year.

Payroll employment forecasts for about 50 segments of Montana's economy are included in this article and a table on page 3. Like all trend analysis, past history of employment determines future employment levels, without any attempt to analyze the underlying forces behind employment. If underlying factors were to change from past patterns, then forecast employment levels would not be accurate.

Recent history of Montana nonagricultural payroll job growth

Since the methodology used for the 1999-2000 forecasts was primarily trend analysis, it is useful to look back at the recent history of nonagricultural payroll employment. The overall growth rate for Montana nonagricultural payroll employment increased in the 1990s, peaking at 4.5 percent in 1994. Growth slowed from 1995 through 1997 (1.3 percent for 1997) and increased to the 20-year historical average of about 2.0 percent in 1998. For the last 2 full years of the historical period, growth averaged about 1.7 percent, although individual segments of the Montana economy did not necessarily follow the overall pattern.

Overall forecasts of employment

Montana average nonagricultural payroll jobs are forecast to increase about 1.7 percent in 1999, with the overall growth rate forecast to decrease slightly to 1.6 percent for the year 2000. It is not entirely coincidental that these growth rates approximate the average growth rate for 1997 and 1998. The trend analysis methodology puts higher value on data for more recent years. These forecasts for 1999 and 2000 compare with an estimated growth rate of about 1.5 percent for both years published in the spring of 1999 by the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research. The Wells Fargo Bank published a much less detailed forecast in October 1999 of 2.0 percent for 1999 and 1.2 percent for the year 2000. The actual forecasts by economic sector–along with historical data for 1996 through 1998–are presented in the table on page 3.

Job forecasts for goods-producing sectors

The segments of the economy that produce physical goods rather than services are agriculture, mining, construction and manufacturing. Since agricultural jobs were excluded from the analysis because of the difficulty of obtaining precise monthly employment information, the following discussion focuses on the other three sectors, starting with mining.

Mining

The Montana mining sector involves only a small number of jobs, but they are generally highly paid jobs, (about $44,000 per job on average for 5,200 payroll jobs in 1998). This sector is forecast to lose about 100 jobs in 1999, mostly in oil and gas mining.

The forecast for 2000 is for an increase of about 300 jobs. Some of the job increase is forecast to be in oil and gas mining, tied to anticipated increases in oil and natural gas prices. (Most oil and gas jobs are associated with exploration rather than production activities, and exploration is highly influenced by world prices for these commodities.)

(*Continued on page 4*)

MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Montana Employment and Labor Force Trends is published quarterly by the Office of Research and Analysis, Job Service Division, Montana Department of Labor and Industry.

Editor: Julie Huntington

Questions, comments and suggestions are welcomed, and should be addressed to:

Office of Research & Analysis
Job Service Division
Department of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728
Helena MT 59624
FAX (406) 444-2638
(406) 444-2430 or TDD (406) 444-0532
WEBSITE: http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/

We will do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Montana Nonagricultural Industry Payroll Employment, 1996 to 2000

INDUSTRY	SIC*	1996	1997	1998**	Forecast 1999	Forecast 2000	Change 1998 to 1999	Change 1999 to 2000
MINING		5,417	5,364	5,160	5,060	5,340	(100)	280
Metal Mining	10	2,088	1,902	1,827	1,890	2,050	63	160
Coal Mining	12	933	984	971	960	950	(11)	(10)
Oil & Gas Extraction	13	1,588	1,692	1,564	1,400	1,510	(164)	110
Nonenergy, Nonmetallic Mining (sand & gravel, talc, etc.)	14	808	786	798	810	830	12	20
CONSTRUCTION		17,150	17,798	18,857	19,600	20,450	743	850
General Building Contractors	15	4,935	5,299	5,361	5,450	5,500	89	50
Heavy Construction Contractors	16	3,921	3,590	3,783	4,050	4,550	267	500
Special Trade Contractors	17	8,294	8,909	9,713	10,100	10,400	387	300
MANUFACTURING		23,865	24,040	24,188	24,480	24,610	292	130
Durable Goods Manufacturing								
Lumber & Other Wood Products	24	7,178	7,136	7,087	7,100	7,050	13	(50)
Cement, Concrete, & Other Stone & Clay Products	32	1,010	1,021	1,038	1,100	1,150	62	50
Aluminum, Lead, & Other Primary Metals Processing	33	1,055	1,053	1,048	1,030	1,010	(18)	(20)
Machinery, Equipment, & Other Durable Manufacturing	25, 34-39	5,575	5,650	5,929	6,000	6,050	71	50
Nondurable Goods Manufacturing								
Food Processing	20	2,568	2,557	2,549	2,600	2,600	51	0
Printing & Publishing	27	3,026	3,068	3,101	3,150	3,225	49	75
Petro. Refining, Paper, Chemicals, Other Nondurables	22,23,26, 28-31	3,453	3,555	3,436	3,500	3,525	64	25
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITY SERVICES		20,755	21,100	21,728	21,995	22,150	267	155
Railroad Transportation	40	3,226	3,193	3,116	3,000	2,925	(116)	(75)
Local & Intercity Transportation	41	1,333	1,458	1,542	1,570	1,600	28	30
Trucking	42	5,326	5,631	5,726	5,850	5,900	124	50
Air & Other Transportation Services	44-47	3,283	3,332	3,633	3,725	3,825	92	100
Communications Services	48	3,545	3,560	3,912	4,100	4,175	188	75
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	49	4,042	3,926	3,799	3,750	3,725	(49)	(25)
WHOLESALE TRADE		18,431	18,659	18,987	19,200	19,300	213	100
Durable Goods	50	9,531	9,659	9,987	10,200	10,300	213	100
Nondurable Goods	51	8,900	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	0	0
RETAIL TRADE		79,925	80,284	81,341	81,925	83,075	584	1,150
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	52	4,132	4,168	4,422	4,550	4,700	128	150
General Merchandise Stores	53	8,818	8,409	8,664	8,550	8,850	(114)	300
Food Stores	54	10,736	10,990	11,174	11,200	11,300	26	100
Motor Vehicle Dealers, Service Stations, & Parts Stores	55	11,305	11,642	11,858	11,900	12,100	42	200
Apparel Stores	56	2,269	2,234	2,282	2,300	2,300	18	0
Furniture & Appliance Stores	57	3,312	3,294	3,452	3,525	3,625	73	100
Eating & Drinking Places (Restaurants, Bars)	58	31,012	31,018	30,987	31,200	31,400	213	200
Sporting Goods, Drug, & Other Retail Stores	59	8,341	8,529	8,502	8,700	8,800	198	100
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE		16,040	16,272	17,002	17,595	17,995	593	400
Depository Institutions	60	6,138	6,158	6,392	6,550	6,600	158	50
Credit Agencies, Securities Brokers, Other Finance	61, 62, 67	2,222	2,352	2,536	2,725	2,900	189	175
Insurance Carriers	63	2,021	2,057	2,255	2,360	2,420	105	60
Insurance Agencies	64	2,196	2,245	2,225	2,310	2,350	85	40
Real Estate	65	3,463	3,460	3,594	3,650	3,725	56	75
OTHER PRIVATE SERVICES		101,650	104,099	106,891	110,405	112,775	3,514	2,370
Lodging Places	70	9,212	9,027	9,317	9,500	9,750	183	250
Personal Services	72	2,769	2,685	2,745	2,775	2,775	30	0
Business Services	73	12,400	12,800	13,200	14,000	14,400	800	400
Motor Vehicle & Other Repair Services	75, 76	4,986	5,296	5,364	5,500	5,550	136	50
Recreational Services, including Movies	78, 79	8,174	8,591	8,870	9,200	9,500	330	300
Health Services	80	32,154	32,413	32,553	33,200	33,300	647	100
Legal Services	81	2,361	2,408	2,457	2,525	2,600	68	75
Educational Services	82	3,200	3,300	3,459	3,525	3,600	66	75
Social Services	83	9,965	10,628	11,238	12,100	12,700	862	600
Membership Organizations, including Tribal	86	8,100	8,100	8,500	8,650	8,850	150	200
Engineering & Management Services	87	6,484	6,932	7,156	7,350	7,600	194	250
Other Services	84, 89, 074, 075, 078	1,845	1,919	2,032	2,080	2,150	48	70
GOVERNMENT		77,009	77,225	77,939	78,200	78,700	261	500
Federal-civilian		12,867	12,656	12,700	12,600	12,600	(100)	200
State-education	82	11,626	12,003	12,262	12,300	12,400	38	100
State-noneducation		11,140	11,095	11,177	11,500	11,600	323	100
Local-education	82	26,175	26,400	26,600	26,800	26,900	200	100
Local-noneducation		15,201	15,071	15,200	15,000	15,000	(200)	0
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL JOBS		**360,242**	**364,841**	**372,093**	**378,460**	**384,395**	**6,367**	**5,935**
Annual Growth Rate		***2.7%***	***1.3%***	***2.0%***	***1.7%***	***1.6%***		

*Standard Industrial Classification System

**Preliminary data subject to revision

Source: Office of Research & Analysis, Montana Department of Labor & Industry

Forecasts less than 2,500 rounded to the nearest 10; forecasts 2,500 up to 5,000 rounded to the nearest 25; forecasts of 5,000 up to 10,000 rounded to the nearest 50; and forecasts of 10,000 and over, rounded to the nearest 100

Most of the projected increase in mining jobs in 2000, however, is expected to come with the Stillwater Mining Company's addition of a platinum/palladium mine in Sweet Grass County that will access the same ore body as its Stillwater County mine. Trend analysis was not used to forecast the metal mining sector, since the Stillwater Mining Company's well-publicized expansion reverses the recent downward trend (since 1994) in employment for that sector. The methodology used included information from the Stillwater Mining Company.

Construction

The contract construction sector is usually a very volatile segment of any economy, but all major segments of this industry have had employment increases since 1987.

This job growth is partly a result of population growth in Montana since 1990 (which has slowed in recent years), with the building construction segment more influenced by population growth than heavy construction, including highways.

Construction employment is forecast to increase by roughly 750 jobs in 1999 and about 850 in 2000. Most of the 1999 increase is forecast to be in the special trades construction segment, which is mostly related to building construction, including remodeling work. Highway heavy construction is forecast to increase in 1999–with an even larger increase in 2000–because of substantial federal funding increases for highway construction.

Heavy construction is another example where trend analysis was not used to forecast jobs, since a major driving force of employment, namely federal government funding, changed substantially.

Employment in the general building contractors segment of construction is forecast to increase very little.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing is the largest employment component of the goods-producing segment of the Montana economy, with about 24,000 payroll jobs in 1997 and 1998. If one includes the self-employed, manufacturing had about 30,000 jobs in 1997 (somewhat more than production agriculture's 27,000 jobs, of which only 5,500 were payroll jobs).

The Montana manufacturing sector is forecast to increase by about 300 jobs in 1999 and about 100 in 2000. No segment of manufacturing is forecast to increase very much in 1999, and primary metals processing (aluminum, lead, etc.) is forecast to decline a little. Primary metals and wood products are both forecast to decline in 2000.

Employment uncertainty for about 250 employees at the Asarco, Inc. lead processing facility in East Helena because of a recent company merger is not included in the primary metals processing sector forecast. The wood products sector's forecast was derived from the March 1999 forecast published by the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

Job forecasts for services-producing sectors

Most jobs in advanced economies are in private and public economic sectors that produce services rather than physical goods. Following are forecasts for those services-producing sectors:

Transportation and utility services

The transportation and utility services segment of the Montana economy has about as many payroll jobs as manufacturing, or about 22,000 jobs in 1998. These jobs are also generally high paying.

Forecasts are for an overall increase of about 250 jobs in 1999 and 150 in 2000. Communications services is the segment with the most forecast growth, continuing to show the importance of this service to businesses and consumers. Railroad transportation (which has had employment declines since 1979) and electric, gas, and sanitary services are both forecast to decline. Recent competition in the electric and gas utility sector (where employment peaked in 1994) should result in continued employment decreases for the near term.

Wholesale trade

Wholesale trade, which is another high-paying service industry, had payroll employment in 1998 of about 19,000. Forecast growth of about 200 jobs for 1999 and 100 for 2000 is consistent with continued slow population growth. No growth is forecast for wholesale nondurable goods.

Retail trade

Montana's low-paying retail trade sector primarily serves Montana residents, but also serves nonresident tourists and business travelers to some extent. Very modest growth is forecast for 1999, consistent with slow population growth. Contributing to slow retail trade job growth in 1999 was the closing of 2 Montgomery Ward stores as part of a nationwide store closure.

For 2000, growth is forecast to pick up with job growth estimated at about 1,150 jobs. Approximately 300 new jobs are forecast for the general merchandise store component of retail trade that suffered the Montgomery Ward closures in 1999. The general merchandise stores increase in 2000 is consistent with Wal-Mart expansions currently under construction in the state and a new Target store in Helena. Continued growth in other segments of retail trade is also forecast, including eating/drinking establishments, vehicle dealers/service stations and building materials stores. More modest growth is forecast for food stores, partly as the result of company mergers and acquisitions.

Finance, insurance, and real estate services

The combined finance, insurance and real estate category had about 17,000 jobs in 1998. The recent strong growth for this relatively high-paying industry group is forecast to continue in 1999 and also in 2000, but to a lesser extent. Most of the growth is estimated to be in finance and insurance.

Other private services for consumers and businesses

This broad category of service industries had employment of 107,000 in 1998, or about 29 percent of total nonagricultural payroll jobs. The largest component of this category is the higher-paying health services sector, with about 33,000 jobs in 1998. The next largest component is a business services category that includes temporary help agencies, computer services, and cleaning and other services for buildings (13,000 jobs in 1998). Another large sector is social services, including nonmedical individual/family counseling; nonmedical residential care, job training and rehabilitation; and child day care (11,000 jobs in 1998). Lodging and other recreational services each had about 9,000 payroll jobs, many of them seasonal.

Growth in health services employment slowed in 1997 and 1998, with nursing home jobs actually declining. This slower growth is reflected in the year 2000 projection for this sector of only about 100 jobs. This time-trend forecast is consistent with the already publicized financial squeeze on Montana's small hospitals and nursing homes. The squeeze results from federal Medicare payment cuts. If Congress restores funding, then health services job growth will be stronger.

Strong growth in the narrowly defined business services category is forecast to continue. Growth is also forecast for the engineering and management services sector and the legal services sector, which are also used by businesses.

Strong growth is forecast for social services. Because of cost considerations, some employment growth has shifted from the health care sector to this sector's counseling and residential care components. This shift probably will continue.

Continued growth in lodging services and recreational services is forecast. These services serve the resident population as well as nonresident business and pleasure travelers.

Government

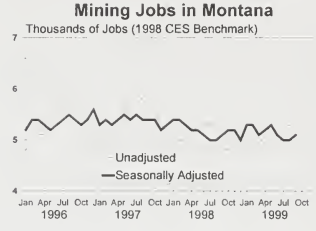
Slow growth is forecast for the overall government sector. Small declines for federal-civilian employment and the noneducation local government sector are forecast for 1999. This brings the estimated government employment growth rate for 1999 down to about 0.3 percent, or roughly 250 jobs. Somewhat stronger growth for 2000 is forecast, partly as the result of workers needed for the 2000 U. S. Census of Population and Housing. ■

Wage and salary jobs by industry sectors

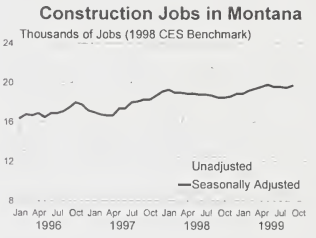
(NOTE: Numbers may not total due to rounding.)

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment averaged 386,100 jobs for third quarter 1999—up 5,000 jobs over the quarter, and up 7,100 jobs over the year.

MINING averaged 5,300 jobs—up about 100 jobs over the quarter, and even over the year.



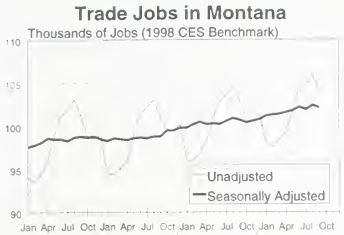
CONSTRUCTION averaged 22,300 jobs—up 2,700 jobs over the quarter, and up about 1,200 jobs over the year. All sectors were up over the quarter, with **special trade** up about 1,000 jobs, and **general building contractors** and **heavy construction** each up 800. Over the year, **special trade** was up 500, **general building contractors** was up 400 and **heavy construction** was up 300.



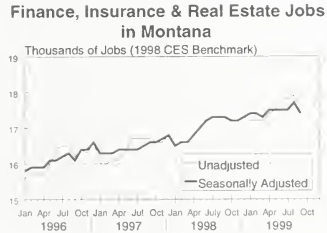
MANUFACTURING averaged 24,900 jobs—up about 600 jobs over the quarter, and nearly even over the year. Most of the quarterly increase came **in lumber & wood products.**

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES (TCU) averaged 22,000 jobs—about the same over the quarter, and up about 500 over the year. Over the year, **local & interurban transportation** and **communications** were each up about 200 jobs, **trucking & warehousing** was up about 100, and **electric, gas & sanitary** was down about 200.

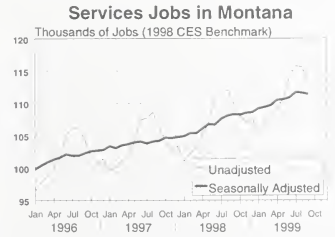
TRADE jobs averaged 104,900 jobs—up about 3,100 jobs over the quarter, and up about 1,300 jobs over the year. Over the quarter, **eating and drinking places** was up about 1,700 jobs. Over the year, **automobile dealers** was up about 300, and **department stores** and **food stores** were each up about 200.



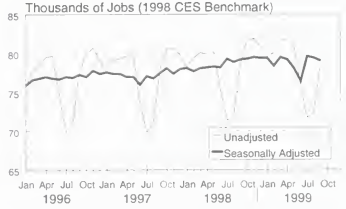
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE (FIRE) averaged 17,800 jobs for the quarter—up about 300 jobs over the quarter, and up about 500 jobs over the year. Over the quarter, **real estate** was up 200. Over the year, **finance** was up about 300 jobs.

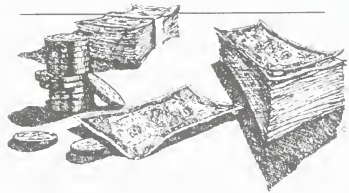


SERVICES averaged 114,800 jobs—up about 3,500 jobs over the quarter, and up about 3,600 over the year. The largest over-the-quarter gains came in **hotels & other lodging** and **amusement, including movies**. The largest over-the-year gains came in **business services, hospitals** and **amusements, including movies**.



TOTAL GOVERNMENT averaged 74,200 jobs—down 5,300 jobs over the quarter, and up about 200 jobs over the year. Seasonal drops took place over the quarter in local education (6,100 jobs) and **state education** (1,200 jobs), while **federal government** showed a seasonal increase of about 800 jobs. **Local education** was up 200 jobs over the year.





Average weekly hours and earnings

Average weekly earnings for production workers averaged $384.79 for the quarter—up $6.81 over the quarter, and up $11.70 over the year.

Average weekly hours averaged 33.2—up 0.7 hour over the quarter, and up 0.3 hour over the year.

Average hourly earnings averaged $11.59 for the quarter—down 4 cents over the quarter, but up 25 cents over the year. ■

Industry news from around the state

(Gathered primarily from state newspaper reports)

Agriculture

⇨**Montana's cherry** harvest was down about two-thirds from last year due to heavy snow in early May, but prices paid for the crop were higher. The Flathead Lake Cherry Growers Association auctioned off its processing equipment this summer and will continue to contract with Washington state's Monson Fruit Co. for processing, warehousing and marketing of Montana's cherry crop.

⇨**Montana, Minnesota and Dakotan spring wheat growers** who belong to a cooperative formerly known as United Spring Wheat Processors are now known as Spring Wheat Bakers and have opened a frozen bread dough factory in McDonough, Ga.

⇨**Rocky Mountain Mushroom Co.** is growing shiitake mushrooms inside a Quonset hut south of Kalispell to sell whole, sliced or dried to area grocery stores and restaurants.

Construction

⇨**Malmstrom Air Force Base officials** say nearly $39 million will be spent on new construction, renovation and maintenance on the Great Falls base during the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. Projects include replacement construction and renovation of family housing units and improvements to the base's north gate and physical fitness center. Also scheduled are replacement construction of a missile service facility and the addition of a helicopter operations facility to one of the base's hangars.

⇨**Advanced Silicon Materials Inc. (ASiMI)** is building a $7 million facility at its plant near Butte for loading silane gas into transport modules. The gas produced for use in making the plant's polycrystalline silicon wafers can be marketed separately. The plant manager says most customers are those who use the gas to deposit additional layers of silicon on the wafers they buy from ASiMI. He says construction should be complete by next spring and the facility should be operational by July 2000.

⇨**Construction is progressing** on a $15.5 million air cargo facility at the Great Falls International Airport. The airport director says Federal Express plans to begin operating out of the new facility in June.

⇨**Construction is under way** on the Great Falls Clinic Northwest primary care facility that is a satellite of the Great Falls Clinic.

⇨**Construction is finished** on a $9 million golf course at the Iron Horse residential community and private golf club development near Whitefish, with work set to begin soon on a $5 million clubhouse. The private course will open for play next summer, according to a development spokesperson.

⇨**A Billings-based road construction** and materials business, JTL Group Inc., has been purchased by MDU Resources Group Inc. subsidiary Knife River Corp. JTL has operations in Billings, Missoula, Belgrade and Casper, Wyo. It employs 180 people year round, and about 450 seasonally. It will retain its name and current management, according to its president.

Manufacturing

⇨**Montana Naturals** has laid off about 50 of its 70 workers because of a sharp drop in orders for the herbal nutritional supplements the company had based a recent expansion on. A company spokesperson says large drug companies glutted the market with herbal supplements, catching many small manufacturers offguard. For the time being, the Arlee company has fallen back to manufacturing its signature bee pollen products. Montana Naturals is a subsidiary of Healthrite Inc.

⇨**A Kalispell man** has started a company that anodizes aluminum machine parts for manufacturers. Sonju Industrial Inc. employs 13 people at its industrial plant near Kalispell and counts Kalispell's Semitool Inc. among its customers.

⇨**Powerhouse Technologies** has been formally acquired by Anchor Gaming–but will keep the Powerhouse Technologies name. Bozeman-based Powerhouse is a leading supplier of software, equipment and services for on-line lotteries, parimutuel betting sytems and casino gaming devices. Las Vegas-based Anchor Gaming operates casinos and develops gaming machines in Nevada.

⇨**Shares of Jore Corp.** began trading on the Nasdaq Stock Exchange in September. The Ronan-based power tool accessory and hand tool manufacturer hopes to raise about $40 million to finance expansion plans and repay debt.

⇨**Smurffit-Stone Container Corp.** has announced plans to lay off 46 workers hired in the last 7 years in an effort to make the Frenchtown linerboard company more competitive and profitable. In order to ease the planned layoffs, the company has made an early retirement offer to hourly-wage earners age 61 and older.

⇨**A Bozeman company** is developing and supplying grapples and winches to landscape and construction crews and heavy machinery operators. ImpleMax Equipment Co. currently employs 6 workers, but expects to triple that number in the next several years, according to a company spokesperson. The metal parts for the grapples are manufactured by another Bozeman-based company, MidWest Industries.

⇨**About a dozen** Ravalli County log home builders are prospering. Scattered along the Bitterroot Valley from Stevensville south to Sula, the builders put together log homes and then tear them down for shipment to building sites for reassembly.

⇨**After auctioning off its assets,** it appears there won't be enough money to fund the employee stock ownership plan which Darby Lumber Inc. employees had been shareholders in since 1994. According to newspaper reports, negotiations are taking place between the lumber mill and its creditors.

⇨**A Bozeman-area timber manufacturer** has become a worker's cooperative. Big Timberworks' owner and employees will share equally in profits–and have an equal say, 1 vote each, in company decisions. The company specializes in timber-frame construction and is a big user of recycled wood. It employs about 45 people.

⇨**A Harlowton man and wife** have made a business for themselves and 5 employees making cooking griddles. Rocky Mountain Cookware uses a powerful steel punch press to manufacture griddles for camp stoves, 2-burner home stoves and 4-burner restaurant stoves. Previously, the couple made manure turd birds, candy cowpies and cowboy-boot furniture.

Transportation, Communications & Utilities

⇨**Touch America** has purchased all of GTE's domestic access lines in Iowa in order to have the opportunity to connect Iowa customers to Touch America's long-haul, fiber-optic network. The Montana Power subsidiary has also linked with New Century Energies, the holding company for Public Service Co. of Colorado, in order to offer high-speed data and telephone services in the Denver area.

⇨**U S WEST** has announced that Citizens Utilities will purchase U S WEST local-exchange telephone properties in Colstrip, Conrad, Cooke City, Cut Bank, East Glacier, Fairview, Forsyth, St. Mary, Shelby and West Glacier. Citizens already provides telecommunications services in Libby, Troy and Eureka. The sale is subject to review by federal and state regulatory agencies.

⇨**D.A. Davidson & Co.** has announced it will offer on-line trading beginning next year. The Great Falls-based brokerage firm will allow clients to place trades on-line without consulting their brokers, but trades will be reviewed to make sure they fall within clients' investment strategies. The company employs about 200 brokers in the Northwest and Rocky Mountain areas.

⇨**Montana Rail Link** has reduced the number of its engineers in Livingston by about a third. Three of the 6 affected engineers are relocating to Helena. The other 3 have the option of relocating to other MRL offices by bumping employees with less seniority.

Finance, Insurance & Real Estate

⇨**Glacier Bancorp Inc.**, the holding company for Montana's Glacier Bank chain, has announced plans to acquire Mountain West Bank offices in Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Post Falls and Boise. The purchase does not include Mountain West Banks in Montana.

Trade

⇨**Jay Jacobs Inc.** is going out of business. The clothing chain has about 150 stores. Five are located in Montana at Billings, Bozeman, Helena, Kalispell and Missoula.

⇨**American Furniture** is closing the chain's 2 Montana stores located in Billings and Bozeman. The Billings store employs 25 people and the Bozeman store employs 19. Those employees have been offered jobs with American Furniture in Colorado, a spokesperson says.

⇨**The University Square Shopping Center** in Bozeman has been sold to a Salt Lake City-based property company. Woodbury Corporation also owns the Capital Hill Mall in Helena.

⇨**Plans are in the works** for an ACE Hardware store in Lewistown. The store is expected to employ 8 people. Construction of the store is expected to be completed by spring.

⇨**Albertson's** is closing its Holiday Village store in Great Falls. A spokesperson says Albertson's hopes to provide affected employees with jobs at other Albertson's stores in the area.

⇨**Old Navy** is apparently holding off on a Great Falls store until at least next year, according to a newspaper report. The company had earlier said it would have a store in Great Falls by spring 1999. The clothing store chain is a division of Gap Inc.

Services

⇨**The acquisition of Ribi ImmunoChem Inc.** by Corixa Corp. has been approved by stockholders and Corixa says it plans to keep about 85 Ribi ImmunoChem employees working at the Hamilton laboratory and manufacturing plant. Seattle-based Corixa will use the Hamilton plant as its main manufacturing center and will begin manufacturing a therapeutic treatment for psoriasis there. Workers at the Hamilton plant will also continue to research ways to use body antigens to fight infectious diseases and illnesses such as cancer. In related news, Corixa has announced a research agreement with Bozeman biotechnology company LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals Inc. to develop medicines that target fungal infections.

⇨**Three technical schools and a cosmetology** college are closing in the state. May Technical College has closed its campuses in Billings and Great Falls. Mr. Max's Bozeman Beauty College has closed in Bozeman. And Education America, Inc. has announced it will close its school in Billings as soon as current students have been trained.

⇨**Montana's only medicare HMO,** GoldChoice, has told its 2,600 Billings-area members that the plan will not be available after Jan. 1. GoldChoice is one of several health plans sold by Yellowstone Community Health Plan, which is a health maintenance organization jointly owned by St. Vincent Hospital and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana. Yellowstone Community Health Plan says federal payments were too low to cover costs. It will continue to operate its other health plans.

⇨**An Internet music player** developed by 2 young Montana men has been purchased by Internet media company Lycos Inc. The men are moving with their Sonique player technology from Bozeman to San Francisco.

⇨**A company that processes credit-card** transactions for businesses has located an office in Bozeman. Frontline Processing of Minneapolis, Minn. started with 10 employees, and plans to have 25 by the end of the year. Frontline acts as an agent between businesses it represents and finance institutions responsible for making good on customer credit-card charges.

⇨**Northern Montana Hospital** in Havre is cutting about 30 of its 600 full-time positions in an effort to live with budget pressures brought about by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, a spokesperson says.

⇨**Cypress Health Care Systems** of Plano, Tex. is taking over the operation of Powell County Memorial Hospital from the BRIM management group.

⇨**Stevensville's Bitterroot Clinic North** is expanding in size and adding a second doctor. The clinic is operated by Marcus Daly Hospital in Hamilton.

⇨**Another assisted living facility** has opened in Butte. Prestige Assisted Living is the third assisted living facility to open in Butte in a year's time, joining the Waterford and Continental Gardens. The Waterford is already expanding its facility to accommodate more residents.

Government

⇨**The Denver Regional Census Center** has opened offices in Billings, Great Falls and Missoula to prepare for the 2000 Census. The offices will begin recruiting a temporary staff of about 600 workers in early October. ■

Information used in the preceding industry briefs was gathered primarily from state newspaper reports.

TABLE 1-A
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
September 1999 (P)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (In thousands)	**139,217**	**133,566**	**5,661**	**4.1%**
MONTANA	471,581	451,655	19,926	4 2%
YELLOWSTONE	72,709	69,927	2,782	3 8%
CASCADE	37,827	36,072	1,755	4 6%
MISSOULA	53,941	52,307	1,634	3 0%
BEAVERHEAD	5,301	5,102	199	3 8%
BIG HORN	5,357	4,935	422	7 9%
BLAINE	2,886	2,651	235	8 1%
BROADWATER	2,214	2,115	99	4 5%
CARBON	4,746	4,539	207	4 4%
CARTER	922	908	14	1 5%
CHOUTEAU	2,750	2,675	75	2 7%
CUSTER	6,102	5,854	248	4 1%
DANIELS	1,197	1,175	22	1 8%
DAWSON	5,521	5,347	174	3 2%
DEER LODGE	3,952	3,709	243	6 1%
FALLON	1,617	1,548	69	4 3%
FERGUS	6,005	5,795	210	3 5%
FLATHEAD	38,411	36,540	1,871	4 9%
GALLATIN	41,556	40,761	795	1 9%
GARFIELD	930	908	22	2 4%
GLACIER	5,283	4,632	651	12 3%
GOLDEN VALLEY	515	496	19	3 7%
GRANITE	1,189	1,145	44	3 7%
HILL	9,588	9,108	480	5 0%
JEFFERSON	4,795	4,608	187	3 9%
JUDITH BASIN	1,260	1,224	36	2 9%
LAKE	12,231	11,613	618	5 1%
LEWIS & CLARK	27,128	25,990	1,138	4 2%
LIBERTY	1,225	1,181	44	3 6%
LINCOLN	7,226	6,646	580	8 0%
MCCONE	1,120	1,087	33	2 9%
MADISON	4,261	4,123	138	3 2%
MEAGHER	1,074	1,030	44	4 1%
MINERAL	1,686	1,559	127	7 5%
MUSSELSHELL	1,738	1,628	110	6 3%
PARK	11,180	10,818	362	3 2%
PETROLEUM	322	300	22	6 8%
PHILLIPS	2,380	2,212	168	7 1%
PONDERA	3,355	3,184	171	5 1%
POWDER RIVER	1,205	1,164	41	3 4%
POWELL	2,377	2,286	91	3 8%
PRAIRIE	651	637	14	2 2%
RAVALLI	17,499	16,696	803	4 6%
RICHLAND	5,633	5,338	295	5 2%
ROOSEVELT	4,508	4,119	389	8 6%
ROSEBUD	4,621	4,315	306	6 6%
SANDERS	4,370	4,088	282	6 5%
SHERIDAN	2,183	2,075	108	4 9%
SILVER BOW	17,714	16,834	880	5 0%
STILLWATER	4,644	4,456	188	4 0%
SWEET GRASS	1,784	1,745	39	2 2%
TETON	3,367	3,268	99	2 9%
TOOLE	2,753	2,648	105	3 8%
TREASURE	489	481	8	1 6%
VALLEY	4,437	4,277	160	3 6%
WHEATLAND	1,256	1,206	50	4 0%
WIBAUX	591	572	19	3.2%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	31,923	30,598	1,325	4 2%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

TABLE 1-B
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
August 1999 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (In thousands)	**140,090**	**134,264**	**5,826**	**4.2%**
MONTANA	481,900	461,637	20,263	4.2%
YELLOWSTONE	75,315	72,413	2,902	3.9%
CASCADE	38,591	36,809	1,782	4.6%
MISSOULA	54,216	52,636	1,580	2.9%
BEAVERHEAD	5,307	5,094	213	4.0%
BIG HORN	5,471	4,973	498	9.1%
BLAINE	3,022	2,782	240	7.9%
BROADWATER	2,303	2,217	86	3.7%
CARBON	4,878	4,686	192	3.9%
CARTER	931	917	14	1.5%
CHOUTEAU	2,790	2,711	79	2.8%
CUSTER	6,313	6,100	213	3.4%
DANIELS	1,214	1,194	20	1.6%
DAWSON	5,398	5,237	161	3.0%
DEER LODGE	4,121	3,854	267	6.5%
FALLON	1,687	1,603	84	5.0%
FERGUS	6,118	5,894	224	3.7%
FLATHEAD	40,127	38,318	1,809	4.5%
GALLATIN	42,714	41,962	752	1.8%
GARFIELD	933	915	18	1.9%
GLACIER	5,346	4,628	718	13.4%
GOLDEN VALLEY	527	500	27	5.1%
GRANITE	1,209	1,161	48	4.0%
HILL	9,892	9,364	528	5.3%
JEFFERSON	4,910	4,725	185	3.8%
JUDITH BASIN	1,208	1,163	45	3.7%
LAKE	12,157	11,553	604	5.0%
LEWIS & CLARK	27,805	26,654	1,151	4.1%
LIBERTY	1,245	1,193	52	4.2%
LINCOLN	7,443	6,809	634	8.5%
MCCONE	1,199	1,161	38	3.2%
MADISON	4,401	4,265	136	3.1%
MEAGHER	1,033	1,004	29	2.8%
MINERAL	1,661	1,552	109	6.6%
MUSSELSHELL	1,857	1,699	158	8.5%
PARK	11,874	11,500	374	3.1%
PETROLEUM	308	288	20	6.5%
PHILLIPS	2,382	2,230	152	6.4%
PONDERA	3,320	3,166	154	4.6%
POWDER RIVER	1,225	1,202	23	1.9%
POWELL	2,422	2,322	100	4.1%
PRAIRIE	663	656	7	1.1%
RAVALLI	17,416	16,648	768	4.4%
RICHLAND	5,758	5,378	380	6.6%
ROOSEVELT	4,543	4,122	421	9.3%
ROSEBUD	4,674	4,314	360	7.7%
SANDERS	4,263	3,991	272	6.4%
SHERIDAN	2,140	2,049	91	4.3%
SILVER BOW	18,110	17,186	924	5.1%
STILLWATER	4,531	4,386	145	3.2%
SWEET GRASS	1,867	1,831	36	1.9%
TETON	3,304	3,207	97	2.9%
TOOLE	2,802	2,700	102	3.6%
TREASURE	494	469	25	5.1%
VALLEY	4,592	4,447	145	3.2%
WHEATLAND	1,279	1,222	57	4.5%
WIBAUX	594	578	16	2.7%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	32,715	31,379	1,336	4.1%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

TABLE 1-C
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
July 1999 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (In thousands)	**141,119**	**134,800**	**6,319**	**4.5%**
MONTANA	487,673	466,985	20,688	4 2%
YELLOWSTONE	76,118	73,224	2,894	3.8%
CASCADE	39,123	37,324	1,799	4 6%
MISSOULA	54,236	52,666	1,570	2 9%
BEAVERHEAD	5,323	5,121	202	3 8%
BIG HORN	5,467	4,939	528	9 7%
BLAINE	3,128	2,895	233	7 4%
BROADWATER	2,240	2,147	93	4 2%
CARBON	4,943	4,759	184	3 7%
CARTER	950	923	27	2 8%
CHOUTEAU	2,955	2,877	78	2 6%
CUSTER	6,592	6,388	204	3 1%
DANIELS	1,333	1,306	27	2 0%
DAWSON	5,748	5,560	188	3 3%
DEER LODGE	4,157	3,889	268	6 4%
FALLON	1,768	1,675	93	5 3%
FERGUS	6,171	5,954	217	3 5%
FLATHEAD	40,233	38,317	1,916	4 8%
GALLATIN	42,782	41,986	796	1 9%
GARFIELD	937	918	19	2 0%
GLACIER	5,320	4,612	708	13 3%
GOLDEN VALLEY	493	470	23	4 7%
GRANITE	1,175	1,113	62	5 3%
HILL	9,969	9,433	536	5 4%
JEFFERSON	4,971	4,781	190	3 8%
JUDITH BASIN	1,181	1,150	31	2 6%
LAKE	12,648	12,042	606	4 8%
LEWIS & CLARK	28,166	26,968	1,198	4 3%
LIBERTY	1,229	1,163	66	5 4%
LINCOLN	7,301	6,616	685	9 4%
MCCONE	1,271	1,236	35	2.8%
MADISON	4,408	4,280	128	2.9%
MEAGHER	1,067	1,020	47	4 4%
MINERAL	1,735	1,628	107	6 2%
MUSSELSHELL	1,933	1,776	157	8 1%
PARK	11,773	11,400	373	3 2%
PETROLEUM	309	288	21	6 8%
PHILLIPS	2,532	2,365	167	6 6%
PONDERA	3,531	3,366	165	4 7%
POWDER RIVER	1,196	1,167	29	2 4%
POWELL	2,450	2,361	89	3 6%
PRAIRIE	648	631	17	2 6%
RAVALLI	17,945	17,169	776	4 3%
RICHLAND	5,727	5,350	377	6 6%
ROOSEVELT	4,585	4,156	429	9 4%
ROSEBUD	4,629	4,295	334	7 2%
SANDERS	4,272	3,994	278	6 5%
SHERIDAN	2,190	2,095	95	4 3%
SILVER BOW	18,933	17,982	951	5 0%
STILLWATER	4,595	4,416	179	3 9%
SWEET GRASS	1,923	1,884	39	2 0%
TETON	3,343	3,232	111	3 3%
TOOLE	2,948	2,853	95	3 2%
TREASURE	500	483	17	3 4%
VALLEY	4,679	4,522	157	3 4%
WHEATLAND	1,269	1,213	56	4 4%
WIBAUX	627	608	19	3 0%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	33,137	31,749	1,388	4 2%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

TABLE II
MONTANA CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY STATISTICS
(IN THOUSANDS)

1999 ANNUAL DATA **(Preliminary)**	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	469.0	471.3	470.7	474.9	476.7	478.7	487.7	481.9	471.6				
EMPLOYED PERSONS	439.2	440.4	440.9	449.3	454.3	455.9	467.0	461.6	451.7				
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	36.7	37.3	34.7	36.5	36.6	37.7	36.3	35.9	35.5				
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.8	30.9	29.8	25.6	22.4	22.8	20.7	20.3	19.9				
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.3%	6.6%	6.3%	5.4%	4.7%	4.8%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%				
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.2%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%	5.1%	4.9%	4.7%	5.2%	5.2%				
U.S. UNADJUSTED	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.1%	4.0%	4.5%	4.5%	4.2%	4.1%				
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	4.3%	4.4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%				

1998 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	455.5	459.6	462.3	465.9	467.4	474.0	480.8	476.3	467.6	468.6	469.1	466.7	467.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	424.1	428.1	431.6	439.8	442.9	447.9	456.7	454.8	445.8	444.7	442.7	439.4	441.5
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	26.8	27.4	27.9	31.8	39.3	40.1	38.2	40.2	38.6	37.5	42.7	35.8	35.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	31.4	31.5	30.7	26.1	24.5	26.1	24.1	21.5	21.8	23.9	26.4	27.3	26.3
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.9%	6.8%	6.6%	5.6%	5.2%	5.5%	5.0%	4.5%	4.7%	5.1%	5.6%	5.9%	5.6%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	5.6%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%	4.1%	4.2%	4.7%	4.7%	4.5%	4.4%	4.2%	4.1%	4.0%	4.5%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	4.6%	4.6%	4.7%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%	4.5%

1997 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	442.9	446.5	449.4	453.1	454.5	460.2	468.1	465.2	455.8	455.9	455.8	456.1	455.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	415.1	418.6	422.1	428.9	432.7	436.4	445.1	444.6	435.4	433.3	430.4	428.1	430.9
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	24.7	22.9	27.0	28.1	32.4	36.0	38.2	40.1	41.6	37.4	33.9	26.3	32.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	27.8	27.9	27.3	24.2	21.8	23.8	23.0	20.6	20.4	22.6	25.4	28.0	24.4
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.3%	6.2%	6.1%	5.3%	4.8%	5.2%	4.9%	4.4%	4.5%	5.0%	5.6%	6.1%	5.4%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.1%	5.0%	5.1%	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.4%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	5.9%	5.7%	5.5%	4.8%	4.7%	5.2%	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.3%	4.4%	4.9%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.3%	5.3%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	4.7%	4.6%	4.7%	4.9%

1996 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	432.8	437.6	440.4	444.5	445.5	452.7	459.2	455.7	447.0	446.7	445.6	443.3	445.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	403.1	407.7	412.3	420.5	423.5	429.4	437.5	436.7	428.3	427.0	423.9	419.3	422.4
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	30.5	29.5	39.0	35.6	37.1	37.4	39.3	37.8	36.6	36.2	31.4	28.7	34.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.7	29.9	28.1	24.0	22.0	23.3	21.7	19.0	18.7	19.7	21.7	24.0	23.5
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.9%	6.8%	6.4%	5.4%	4.9%	5.1%	4.7%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	4.9%	5.4%	5.3%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	5.5%	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	5.3%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	6.3%	6.0%	5.8%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	5.0%	5.4%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%	5.3%	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%

1/ESTIMATES BASED ON NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SAMPLE, CENSUS AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS: INCLUDES SELF-EMPLOYED, UNPAID FAMILY AND DOMESTIC WORKERS. CURRENT MONTH PRELIMINARY. REVISED TO 1999 BENCHMARKS.
2/NONADDITIVE: INCLUDED IN TOTAL EMPLOYMENT.
3/COMPUTED FROM WHOLE (UNROUNDED) NUMBERS. RESIDENCE SERIES BEGAN IN JANUARY 1970.
SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTES S-1 AND S-2 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

TABLE III
M O N T A N A
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

98BM

1999

(Page 1)

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	367.1	368.7	371.6	376.7	382.3	384.4	384.0	386.5	387.7				
TOTAL PRIVATE	287.6	288.6	289.9	295.0	301.2	308.7	312.3	314.2	309.2				
GOODS PRODUCING	45.1	45.3	45.1	47.3	49.3	50.7	52.0	52.9	52.4				
SERVICE PRODUCING	322.0	323.4	326.5	329.4	333.0	333.7	332.0	333.6	335.3				
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	242.5	243.3	244.8	247.7	251.9	258.0	260.3	261.3	256.8				
MINING	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2				
METAL MINING	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0				
GOLD & SILVER ORES	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5				
COAL MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9				
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4				
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9				
CONSTRUCTION	15.6	15.7	16.1	18.2	19.8	20.8	21.8	22.5	22.5				
GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS	4.9	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.3				
HEAVY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT	2.3	2.4	2.6	3.6	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.1	4.9				
SPECIAL TRADE CONTRACTORS	8.4	8.4	8.7	9.5	10.3	10.7	11.1	11.3	11.3				
MANUFACTURING	24.5	24.6	24.1	24.0	24.2	24.6	24.9	25.1	24.7				
DURABLE GOODS	15.2	15.2	15.1	15.0	15.2	15.5	15.7	15.8	15.5				
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.3				
*LOGGING	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4				
SAWMILLS & PLANING	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3				
*STONE, CLAY & GLASS	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2				
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0				
NONDURABLE GOODS	9.3	9.4	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.2				
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7				
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2				
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.8	22.0	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.1				
TRANSPORTATION	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.0	14.2	14.5				
RAILROAD	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1				
LOCAL & INTERURBAN	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6				
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSE	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0				
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6				
COMMUNICATIONS	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0				
TELEPHONE COMM	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1				
ELECTRIC,GAS,SANITARY	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6				
COMBINATION UTILITY	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8				
TRADE	98.0	97.6	98.3	99.4	101.7	104.3	104.9	105.8	104.0				
WHOLESALE TRADE	19.0	19.0	19.1	19.3	19.4	19.5	19.4	19.5	19.3				
WHOLESALE - DURABLES	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.2				
WHOLESALE - NONDURABLE	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1				
RETAIL TRADE	79.0	78.6	79.2	80.1	82.3	84.8	85.5	86.3	84.7				
BLDNG MATERIALS, GRDN SUPL	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7				
GENERAL MERCHANDISE	8.8	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.8				
DEPARTMENT STORES	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6				
FOOD STORES	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5				
AUTOMOTIVE DEALERS	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.3				
NEW, USED CAR DEALER	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8				

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION
ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE

*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN * ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

TABLE III
M O N T A N A
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

98 BM

1999

(Page 2)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999													
GAS STATIONS	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.3				
APPAREL & ACCESSORY	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4				
FURN, HOMEFURN, EQUIP	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5				
EATING & DRINKING	29.2	29.4	30.1	30.3	31.5	32.9	33.3	33.8	32.9				
MISC. RETAIL	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.6				
FINANCE, INS. REAL EST.	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.7	17.8	17.9	17.6				
FINANCE	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.2				
DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.5				
COMMERCIAL BANKS	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7				
INSURANCE	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7				
INSURANCE CARRIERS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4				
INSURANCE AGENTS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3				
REAL ESTATE	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7				
SERVICES	105.6	106.8	107.6	109.1	110.7	114.0	115.7	115.6	113.1				
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	9.2	11.3	12.3	12.0	10.9				
PERSONAL SERVICES	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7				
BUSINESS SERVICES	11.9	12.0	12.3	13.0	13.4	13.5	13.8	13.9	13.4				
AUTO & MISC. REPAIR	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8				
AMUSEMENT, INCL MOVIES	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.8	9.1	9.9	10.5	10.8	10.0				
HEALTH SERVICES	33.4	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.6	33.7	33.8	33.6				
NURSING & PRSNL CARE	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8				
HOSPITALS	16.9	17.0	17.1	17.1	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.5	17.4				
LEGAL SERVICES	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5				
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.3				
SOCIAL SERVICES	11.9	12.2	12.3	12.3	12.2	12.1	11.8	11.8	12.0				
RESIDENTIAL CARE	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9				
MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION	8.8	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.3				
ENGINEERING & MNGMENT	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.3				
ENGINEER, ARCHITECTS	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3				
* ACCOUNTING, AUDITING	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8				
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	79.5	80.1	81.7	81.7	81.1	75.7	71.7	72.3	78.5				
TOTAL FEDERAL GOVT.	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.2	12.9	13.6	13.9	13.9	13.4				
TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT	24.2	23.9	25.2	25.1	23.9	21.1	21.0	21.3	24.5				
STATE EDUCATION	12.8	12.5	13.5	13.4	12.5	9.5	9.4	9.6	12.9				
*OTHER STATE GOVT.	11.4	11.4	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.6				
TOTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT	43.4	44.3	44.6	44.4	44.3	41.0	36.8	37.1	40.6				
LOCAL EDUCATION	28.7	29.6	29.8	29.5	29.2	24.6	20.1	19.9	25.1				
*OTHER LOCAL GOVT	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.1	16.4	16.7	17.2	15.5				

*SEE FOOTNOTE ON PAGE 1 OF THIS TABLE

TABLE IV
MONTANA
STATEWIDE FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

1999

98BM

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	185.2	185.7	186.8	188.5	190.2	189.8	186.4	187.8	190.6				
TOTAL PRIVATE	141.6	142.0	142.4	144.1	146.4	149.7	150.1	151.3	149.2				
MINING	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6				
CONSTRUCTION	1.7	1.8	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4				
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.5				
DURABLE GOODS	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9				
NONDURABLE GOODS	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6				
TCU 1/	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.1				
TRANSPORTATION	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.6				
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5				
TRADE	46.4	45.9	46.0	47.0	48.1	49.7	49.6	50.5	49.2				
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3				
RETAIL TRADE	42.1	41.5	41.6	42.6	43.8	45.4	45.3	46.1	44.9				
EATING & DRINKING	16.7	16.8	17.0	17.4	18.1	19.2	19.0	19.6	18.4				
FIRE 2/	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.6	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7				
FINANCE	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0				
SERVICES	69.0	69.8	70.1	70.4	71.5	72.9	73.2	73.4	72.7				
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.8	5.6	6.9	7.4	7.3	6.6				
HEALTH SERVICES	28.3	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.3	28.4	28.6	28.7	28.4				
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	43.6	43.7	44.4	44.4	43.8	40.1	36.3	36.5	41.4				
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.3				
STATE GOVERNMENT	12.7	12.3	12.8	12.8	12.1	10.7	10.4	10.6	12.9				
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	25.9	26.4	26.7	26.6	26.5	24.0	20.4	20.5	23.2				

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES

2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IS PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS A STATE ECONOMIC INDICATOR

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-5 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE

CES

TABLE V
MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS
For Private Nonagricultural Production Workers

	Production Workers (In Thousands)				Average Weekly Earnings			
	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998
*TOTAL PRIVATE	265.4	266.5	261.3	255.0	$385.10	$387.07	$383.57	$370.01
MINING	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	$746.43	$749.76	$753.27	$756.96
*CONSTRUCTION	17.8	18.0	18.2	17.2	$655.71	$635.84	$626.49	$630.56
MANUFACTURING	18.3	18.4	18.1	17.7	$577.50	$572.66	$567.07	$548.02
Durable Goods	12.8	12.8	12.6	12.2	$525.90	$548.64	$536.41	$533.06
Nondurable	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	$698.00	$626.85	$639.60	$582.47
*TCU 1/	19.1	19.5	19.8	18.9	$581.94	$591.32	$579.46	$576.57
*Transportation	12.2	12.5	13.0	12.1	$525.49	$533.17	$513.48	$518.97
*Comm. & Util.	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	$679.77	$696.19	$705.87	$680.73
*TRADE	92.6	93.1	91.2	89.9	$293.25	$294.18	$295.74	$274.21
*Wholesale Trade	16.2	16.2	16.1	16.0	$503.37	$513.76	$527.62	$473.63
*Retail Trade	76.4	76.9	75.1	73.9	$248.10	$247.25	$246.08	$231.20
*FIRE 2/	13.9	13.9	13.8	13.5	$393.11	$400.77	$391.48	$381.28
*SERVICES	99.4	99.3	96.0	93.6	$332.63	$336.65	$328.60	$321.43

	Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998
*TOTAL PRIVATE	33.4	33.6	32.7	32.4	$11.53	$11.52	$11.73	$11.42
MINING	43.6	42.6	42.2	42.1	$17.12	$17.60	$17.85	$17.98
*CONSTRUCTION	39.1	38.7	37.9	38.1	$16.77	$16.43	$16.53	$16.55
MANUFACTURING	39.8	40.3	39.6	39.2	$14.51	$14.21	$14.32	$13.98
Durable Goods	39.1	40.7	39.5	39.9	$13.45	$13.48	$13.58	$13.36
Nondurable	41.4	39.4	40.0	37.7	$16.86	$15.91	$15.99	$15.45
*TCU 1/	39.4	39.5	39.1	38.8	$14.77	$14.97	$14.82	$14.86
*Transportation	39.6	39.7	38.9	38.7	$13.27	$13.43	$13.20	$13.41
*Comm. & Util.	39.0	39.2	39.5	39.1	$17.43	$17.76	$17.87	$17.41
*TRADE	31.6	31.7	31.0	30.4	$9.28	$9.28	$9.54	$9.02
*Wholesale Trade	38.9	38.0	38.4	37.5	$12.94	$13.52	$13.74	$12.63
*Retail Trade	30.0	30.3	29.4	28.9	$8.27	$8.16	$8.37	$8.00
*FIRE 2/	35.9	36.5	35.3	35.7	$10.95	$10.98	$11.09	$10.68
*SERVICES	31.0	31.2	29.9	29.9	$10.73	$10.79	$10.99	$10.75

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES
2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN *ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

PRODUCTION WORKERS ARE NONSUPERVISORY AND NONGOVERNMENT PAYROLL PERSONNEL.

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION
ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE.

TABLE VI
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ALL ITEMS
(1982-1984 = 100)

	1999		1998		1997	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	164.3	161.0	161.6	158.4	159.1	156.3
February	164.5	161.1	161.9	158.5	159.6	156.8
March	165.0	161.4	162.2	158.7	160.0	157.0
April	166.2	162.7	162.5	159.1	160.2	157.2
May	166.2	162.8	162.8	159.5	160.1	157.2
June	166.2	162.8	163.0	159.7	160.3	157.4
July	166.7	163.3	163.2	159.8	160.5	157.5
August	167.1	163.8	163.4	160.0	160.8	157.8
September	167.9	164.7	163.6	160.2	161.2	158.3
October			164.0	160.6	161.6	158.5
November			164.0	160.7	161.5	158.5
December			163.9	160.7	161.3	158.2
Dec-to-Dec %			1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	1.5%
ANNUAL AVERAGE:			163.0	159.7	160.5	157.6
Ann Avg %			1.6%	1.3%	2.3%	2.3%

			% Change From		Ann Average %	
Expenditure Category CPI-U Index	Relative Importance	Sept. 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1998	1998	1997
ALL ITEMS	100%	167.9	0.5%	2.6%	1.6%	2.3%
Food & Beverages	16%	165.9	0.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.6%
Housing	40%	165.2	0.1%	2.3%	2.3%	2.6%
Apparel	5%	131.8	3.4%	-1.3%	0.1%	0.9%
Transportation	17%	146.5	0.5%	4.1%	-1.9%	0.9%
Medical Care	6%	252.3	0.2%	3.4%	3.2%	2.8%
Recreation	6%	101.7	-0.5%	0.4%	1.5%	2.3%
Education and Communication	5%	101.9	0.7%	1.0%	1.9%	3.3%
Other Goods & Services	5%	262.6	1.9%	9.2%	5.7%	4.4%

Purchasing Power Of Consumer Dollar:	Sept. 1999	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1998	Ann Average 1998	1997
(1982-84 = $1.00)	$0.60	$0.60	$0.61	$0.61	$0.62

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) IS A MEASURE OF THE AVERAGE CHANGE IN THE PRICES PAID BY URBAN CONSUMERS FOR A FIXED MARKET BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES. THE CPI IS CALCULATED MONTHLY FOR TWO POPULATION GROUPS, ONE CONSISTING ONLY OF THE URBAN HOUSEHOLDS WHOSE PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME IS DERIVED FROM THE EMPLOYMENT OF WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS (CPI-W). AS NEW USES WERE DEVELOPED FOR THE CPI IN RECENT YEARS, THE NEED FOR A BROADER AND MORE REPRESENTATIVE INDEX BECAME APPARENT. THE ALL-URBAN CONSUMER INDEX (CPI-U), INTRODUCED IN 1978, IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 1982-84 BUYING HABITS OF ABOUT 80% OF THE NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION, COMPARED WITH 32% REPRESENTED IN CPI-W.

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-6 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

Note: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has begun using a new formula for calculating the basic components of the CPI-U and the CPI-W effective with the data starting January 1999.

TABLE VII

NEW AND CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

AREAS	New July To Sept. 1999	Changed July To Sept. 1999	New July To Sept. 1998	Changed July To Sept. 1998	Year-to-Date 1999	Year-to-Date 1998
State of MT	860	287	731	280	3872	4016
Great Falls MSA	42	12	51	25	201	265
Billings MSA	115	43	98	31	495	508
Missoula MSA	80	34	66	29	390	381
Multi County	111	12	83	15	491	390
Anaconda-Butte LFA	42	12	41	23	220	239
Beaverhead	6	2	7	1	38	41
Deer Lodge	6	1	1	4	25	29
Granite	1	0	0	0	10	5
Madison	8	0	5	7	39	47
Powell	2	3	3	3	14	13
Silver Bow	19	6	25	8	94	104
Bozeman LFA	121	32	94	34	502	499
Gallatin	96	24	74	26	399	407
Meagher	1	0	1	0	7	6
Park	24	8	19	8	96	86
Glasgow LFA	23	8	14	11	76	99
Daniels	3	2	2	0	14	7
Phillips	5	1	2	4	15	22
Roosevelt	10	2	4	4	23	27
Sheridan	2	1	2	3	10	18
Valley	3	2	4	0	14	25
Glendive LFA	9	3	14	3	59	77
Dawson	2	0	5	1	24	28
Garfield	0	0	2	0	2	5
McCone	0	0	0	0	2	3
Prairie	0	0	1	0	1	5
Richland	7	3	6	2	29	34
Wibaux	0	0	0	0	1	2
Hardin-Red Lodge LFA	24	9	26	3	109	128
Big Horn	7	1	4	0	25	17
Carbon	9	4	12	2	38	51
Stillwater	4	3	6	1	30	42
Sweet Grass	4	1	4	0	16	18

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL.

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis, from Unemployment Insurance (UI) administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only

TABLE VII

NEW AND CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

AREAS	New July To Sept. 1999	Changed July To Sept. 1999	New July To Sept. 1998	Changed July To Sept. 1998	Year-to-Date 1999	Year-to-Date 1998
Havre LFA	6	8	11	6	57	77
Blaine	2	5	2	2	16	17
Hill	3	2	8	4	36	46
Liberty	1	1	1	0	5	14
Helena LFA	57	24	38	21	242	264
Broadwater	2	0	3	3	13	12
Jefferson	3	3	6	3	28	28
Lewis & Clark	52	21	29	15	201	224
Kalispell LFA	119	44	102	37	544	572
Flathead	94	35	65	26	396	398
Lake	20	5	22	6	93	93
Lincoln	5	4	15	5	55	81
Lewistown LFA	15	7	16	9	73	74
Fergus	7	5	9	4	43	43
Golden Valley	1	0	0	1	1	5
Judith Basin	2	1	2	1	7	9
Musselshell	5	0	3	2	16	9
Petroleum	0	0	1	0	1	1
Wheatland	0	1	1	1	5	7
Miles City LFA	15	11	14	5	80	106
Carter	0	0	0	1	2	2
Custer	6	6	8	1	42	39
Fallon	3	2	0	1	12	18
Powder River	2	0	0	0	6	14
Rosebud	3	3	6	2	17	30
Treasure	1	0	0	0	1	3
Missoula LFA	138	52	111	49	620	612
Mineral	3	2	0	0	14	14
Missoula	80	34	66	29	390	381
Ravalli	47	12	37	15	161	157
Sanders	8	4	8	5	55	60
Shelby-Cut Bank LFA	23	10	18	8	103	106
Chouteau	4	0	3	2	14	20
Glacier	7	1	4	0	27	17
Pondera	4	1	3	1	18	17
Teton	5	3	4	3	18	26
Toole	3	5	4	2	26	26

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL.

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE. This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis, from Unemployment Insurance (UI) administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only

Glossary of Terms

1.Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.

2.Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3.Unemployed - those persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4.Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5.Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6.Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7.Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed using the X-11 ARIMA method of seasonal adjustment. This is the same method used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to seasonally adjust the national labor force series.

8.MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area - as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The MSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

9.LFA - Labor Force Area as determined by the Office of Research and Analysis, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

10.SDA - The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) was established to replace CETA in job search, placement, relocation and training assistance. Each state designs local plans for JTPA programs through a Private Industry Council (PIC). Each PIC jurisdiction is known as Service Delivery Area (SDA). The 2 SDAs for Montana are known as Rural CEP (Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Madison, Meagher, Powell, and Silver Bow counties) and Balance of State (the other 46 counties).

11.BENCHMARKING - It is a continuous process of establishing a new set of data which affects the series of estimates through revisions. Once a new benchmark is established, the adjustments to estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one are carried forward progressively to the current month by use of sample trends. The benchmark is established less frequently (usually once a year) based on sample or secondary data. In the case of employment data, the benchmark is used to establish the level of employment, while the sample is primarily used to measure the month - to - month changes in the level.

12.CES-790 Program - current employment statistics survey produces monthly estimates of a wide variety of employment and earnings information for the nation and each state. Because this information comes from a survey of employers, persons who work for 2 different companies would be counted twice. Thus, nonagricultural employment is actually a count of the number of jobs filled, rather than the number of persons employed.

Sources of Data

S-1.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). LAUS data (Local Area Unemployment Statistics program) is adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark and is the official BLS approved series that is used to allocate federal funds and determine eligibility for federal assistance programs. This series represents employment and unemployment by place of residence, and is not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series (CES data). LAUS data is calculated for the week that includes the 12th of the month. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestic workers and the self-employed.

S-2.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis. The unadjusted unemployment rate is prepared by the LAUS program in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The seasonally adjusted rate is an unofficial series, and is provided only for use as a state economic indicator.

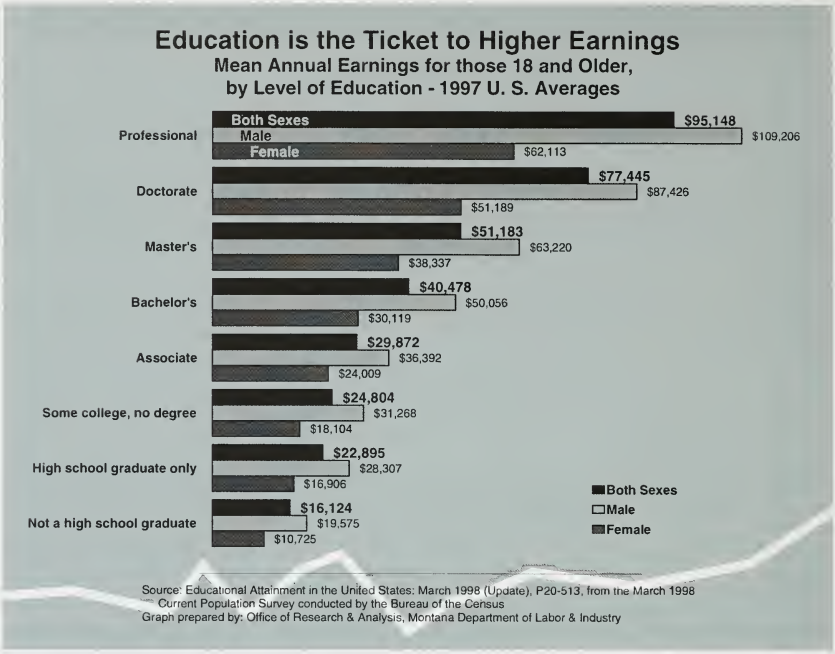
S-3.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis from LAUS data. Data for Service Delivery Areas and Labor Force Areas is calculated from the official data series by summing up employment and unemployment for the appropriate counties involved, and calculating an unemployment rate from the summed data for each area.

S-4.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data from the CES (Current Employment Statistics) program represents nonagricultural wage and salary employment by place of work, and covers full-time and part-time employees who worked during, or received pay for, the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The data excludes the self-employed, volunteers, unpaid family workers and domestic workers. Persons on sick leave, vacations, or holidays (and being paid for that period by their employer) are considered employed. Payroll and worker hour data is collected for production and related workers in manufacturing industries, nonsupervisory workers in private service-producing industries, and construction workers in construction industries. The earnings figures are "gross" figures—that is, they reflect changes in wage rates, shift differentials and premium pay for overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received, which is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

S-5.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis from a survey of Business Establishments as part of the BLS-790 Program. Information on women workers is computed as a ratio of all employees of the Current Employment Statistics, and is produced for informational purposes only.

S-6.) Tabulations produced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, and reprinted by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis for informational purposes only. This is a national data series because Montana data is not computed separately.

800 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of $2.54 per copy, for a total cost of $2,032.00, which includes $1,416.00 for printing and $616.00 for distribution.



Office of Research & Analysis ■ Job Service Division ■ Montana Department of Labor & Industry

Return in 5 days to:
Office of Research & Analysis
Job Service Division
Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728
Helena MT 59624-1728

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use – $300

66107

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
1 (illegible)
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA (illegible)